

Paradise Town
Office of the Mayor
www.paradise.utah.gov

May, 2012

BUDGET – This time of year is when we propose a budget for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1st. We have looked carefully over the past few years of both revenue and expenditures and put together a balanced budget that essentially will continue to fund things at about the same levels as last year. Typically, Fire/EMS Grants or RAPZ Tax awards have to be in hand before we increase our spending allocations. We are proposing to continue in the tradition of the past 2 decades and are not considering a tax increase for the next fiscal year unless residents clamor for higher taxes/services at the Public Hearing.

Also, this is when we amend the current budget to adjust for shifts in both revenue and expenditures in accordance with the State Auditor's regulations. The process requires a careful analysis of income and expenditures to-date and a projection of where various categories are going to be by June 30th. The major adjustment to the budget for this year is to account for expenditures for the new park which affects the revenue side from the RAPZ Tax and the expenditure side where we allocate those funds and pay for improvements.

PUBLIC HEARING – We will be having the Public Hearing to discuss the upcoming year's proposed budget as well as to discuss or answer any questions regarding the amendments/transfers for our current budget year. **The Public Hearing will be held June 6, 2012 at the Town Hall at 7PM.** Everyone is welcome and will be given the opportunity to ask questions or make brief statements regarding both budget topics. This can be a very educational opportunity to learn more about how the Town is funded.

OUTSIDE USE OF CULINARY WATER – As a reminder, use of the culinary water for landscape watering is prohibited by ordinance, as is any connection to any irrigation system. Please see the attached ordinances for your reference. The canal system water will be turned in soon and the grass will survive fine until it is available. A little culinary water from a hose for flowers or vegetables is reasonable, but must be kept to a minimum and cannot be from an installed system.

TRASH and DEBRIS – We sincerely appreciate the efforts of residents in keeping the community a beautiful place to live. Those that go through their yards periodically and dispose of or properly store unsightly materials go a long way towards creating less contention in the neighborhoods as well as improving everyone's property values and re-sale potential. Other than dogs – the most common complaint to myself, Bev, or members of the Council is from those that live near or drive by areas where junky looking things seem to be accumulating.

Certainly the desire of the Council is to refrain from becoming the Junk Police to avoid hard feelings and legal/litigation costs. We primarily rely on the personal integrity of individuals to resolve issues long before government intervention is needed. The Town Ordinances provide a wide variety of administrative methods involving forced cleanup and civil/criminal penalties for non-compliance. In the instance that we have made official contacts for non-compliance, it is usually after several similar complaints have been made and the neighbor-to-neighbor process has broken down. To help preserve our budget dollars and to repair friendships in the community, we again ask residents to keep their yards reasonably clean in the spirit of being a good neighbor.

WATER – The new water tank project was awarded to Raymond Construction of North Logan. Not only were they the lowest bid, they also have a strong record of building similar tanks in the Utah/Idaho region and we expect they will do a good job on our project. The Conditional Use Permit for the tank was approved by the County Planning Commission and construction will begin shortly.

No shooting or vehicle/foot/cycle/horseback trespassing will be allowed during the construction project and we ask residents to stay away from that area and let the contractors do their job.

YOUTH FOOTBALL – Signups for the 2012 Mountain Crest Football program will be in June for those 7 years of age and older up to youth that are in the 8th grade. For more information, please go to www.mountaincrestyouthfootball.org or call Julie Collins at 435-760-4829.

NEW PARK – We are continuing with the construction of the equestrian arena at the new park. Thank you for your labor and support of the project and we know that volunteers from the community are a vital part of stretching our budget to accomplish as much progress as we can from our limited budget. .

We are still waiting to hear from the County on the status of our RAPZ Tax application. The level of funding obtained will determine the next steps in the process of running utilizes and getting the ball fields prepared and planted. We hope we get a generous amount of funding to keep our park project moving!

Please call or e-mail me with any, concerns, comments, or questions regarding the above notes or other Town issues.

Leland Howlett – Mayor

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